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CHRISTMAS 1897

(Continued from Page Three.)

eause they are necessarily relegated to the position of last man to bat, if not excluded altogether. An improvement in the condition of things in this regard is confidently looked

In the United States the popularity of cricket has of late years advanced by leaps and bounds, extending even to the Pacific Coast, Boston has done much to advance the welfare of the game in Massachusetts, while Philadelphia is regarded as "the home of cricket in America." So assured are the Philadelphians of the cinca-tional qualities of the game, that last year they sent over to England eleven of school boys, to see how the game is played in "the old country." Then there is the Longwood club, founded in 1877, which stands at the head. New York has for many years boasted of a Metropolitan Cricket League which includes the well known clubs of Manhattan, King's County. Bedford of Long Island, New York, Cosmopolitan, New Jersey and Staten Island, while of clubs outside of the league the oldest are St. George, Berkeley, Athletic, Brooklyn, Amateur League, St. Austin, Hamilton and Co-lumbia College, Contests with English Canadian and Australian elevens ar of regular occurrence, and only on the 4th day of October last ended the longest and best schedule of interna tional games ever played by cricket-ers of the United States.

All the world has heard of the Australian ericketers and their wonderful proficiency. The series of brilliant ontests with Alfred Shaw's and Lord Harris' teams from the mother country, played in the eighties and witnessed by the writer, are responsible for much of his enthusiasm. And here suffer me to give an illustration of the sport proclivities of the Antipodeans.

At the time above referred to no one in Australia had ever seen a baseball game, or had the faintest idea about Globe trotters returning to the colonies by way of the States would give extravagant and humorous accounts of a puzzling game-with the players knee-deep in mud-which they had seen in their travels. Yet no sooner did the Colonials receive a visit from the American baseballists, before they entered into the sport heart and soul and lost no time in learning And although I understand that they have not as yet achieved very great triumphs in the States,I vent-ure to predict that they will give a good account of themselves ere long. because they are of the stuff that goes to make athletes. Those who have been at a Presidency vs. Parsee cricket match in the Maidan at Bombay will bear me out that it is a common thing to see 10,000 natives of India looking on with the keenest interest at an English game, and it must be recognized that there are qualities in the game of most especial merit. Prince Ranjitsinhji has written a book about cricket, said to be the best of its kind, and quite recently added to his many There are 107 Choice Lots laurels by making a phenomenal score of three figures in a match of England vs. Australia. So that here we for sale at Waikiki, right have two instances of a people maseign to them. I can conceive of no earthly reason why the sport loving element of this community should not

make up its mind to take up and encourage cricket. The climatic conditions for the success of cricket in Honolulu are the This is one of the best best in the world. It is no exaggeration to say that th cellent material for the establishment of several clubs. Not only have we got cricketers who with proper practice and training would make. their mark anywhere, but we have quite a number of good baseballists, who excel in the fielding department. Then again additional zest could be infused into the sport by the making up of teams of diverse nationalities,

Most of the matches hitherto played in Honolulu have partaken more of the nature of a social function than a game of genuine sport, which should rely more upon its own merits to attract an audience than upon the kindly hospitality of liberal and interested

lady friends. Let all lovers of good and manly sport give this matter a little more than passing thought. A cosmopolitan city which can support half a dozen baseball clubs, three football clubs, three tennis clubs, three rowing clubs and a Cyclomere, can surely find ways and means to provide us with a centrally located ground with a very modest club house or lanal for shelter, where we may indulge in a wholesome and enjoyable sport which has stood the test of nearly two centuries, which is honored and admired in the four quarters of the globe, which is played by a larger number of the Eng-lish speaking accords to lish speaking people than any other field game and which has, above all, ever maintained its reputation as be ing essentially a gentleman's game, "ANGLO-DANE,"

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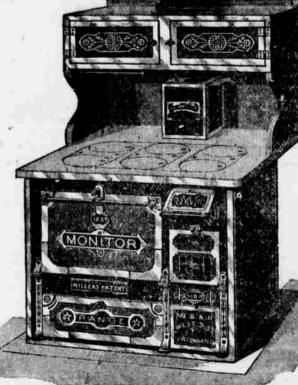
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